

Furbearer Education

Licenses, applications, harvest reporting and general information: wildlife.dgf.nm.gov

Furbearer Education Requirements

Every person purchasing a Trapper License must complete a NMDGF-approved trapper education course before setting any trap or snare, or hunting any furbearer in New Mexico. Each person is required to complete the education course only once in their lifetime; all courses are available free of charge. Proof of successful completion of a trapper education course in any other state will be accepted, but the New Mexico Furbearer Law and Species Identification Course must also be completed.

Courses must be provided or approved by NMDGF. These courses provide: 1) essential information needed to be a responsible and ethical trapper, 2) the laws governing furbearer trapping and hunting, and 3) information about furbearer species in New Mexico.

Please see the section below to determine which education course you will need to take. To enroll you must create or login to your account in the Online Licensing System <https://onlinesales.wildlife.state.nm.us>. After logging in, all course options are available by clicking "Trapper Education" in the main menu. For assistance logging into your account, contact the NMDGF Information Center: **1-888-248-6866**. If you have previously purchased a license in New Mexico, but are unable to log into your account, **DO NOT CREATE A NEW ACCOUNT!** Please call for assistance.

Which Course Are You Required To Take?

Trappers Who Have Never Taken a Trapper Education Course

If you will set traps and/or snares, and you have NEVER taken a trapper education course (in another state or with a national association), then choose the "New Mexico Trapper Education Course" online at <https://onlinesales.wildlife.state.nm.us> to fulfill all of the education requirements for setting traps or snares for furbearers and for hunting furbearers in New Mexico. You will need your NMDGF Customer Identification Number (CIN) to register for the complete course. Upon successful completion of this course, you will receive a Course Completion Certificate, your NMDGF account will automatically be updated and you will be able to purchase a license.

Trappers Who Have Taken Trapper Education in Another State

If you will set traps and/or snares, and you HAVE PREVIOUSLY taken a trapper education course through a different venue (another state wildlife management agency or an NMDGF-approved, non-state entity), you are required to take the "New Mexico Furbearer Law and Species Identification Course" through your NMDGF account at <https://onlinesales.wildlife.state.nm.us>. To determine whether a trapper education course is approved, contact the NMDGF Trapper Education Program: **505-257-8701**. The New Mexico Furbearer Law and Species Identification Course focuses specifically on the regulations that must be followed in New Mexico, and you must successfully pass a course quiz before a license can be purchased. After the quiz, you will be asked for the Trapper Education Number you received from the NMDGF-approved course you previously completed. If you do not have that number, please email Nicholas.Forman@dgf.nm.gov to receive verification of your previous trapper education course.

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Hunters Calling and Hunting Furbearers ONLY (no trapping allowed)

If you only hunt furbearers (you will not be setting traps or snares), you are required to complete the Hunt Only Course (New Mexico Furbearer Hunt Course) through your NMDGF account at <https://onlinesales.wildlife.state.nm.us>. This is an abbreviated version of the New Mexico Furbearer Law and Species Identification Course, which covers only the information applicable to hunting furbearers. You must successfully pass a course quiz before a license can be purchased.

The Hunt Only Course does not cover trapping and does not satisfy the requirements to set traps or snares in New Mexico. If you think you might trap at any time in the future, you should complete the New Mexico Trapper Education Course, which meets all furbearer hunting and trapping requirements. It is illegal to set any trap or snare without having completed an approved trapper education course. NMDGF encourages all furbearer hunters to take the full New Mexico Trapper Education Course.

Foothold trap placed flush with the surface of the ground.

NMDGF photo.

